to autolysis and putrification of the dead bodies as they remained in water for more than 72 hours.

(c) Kuno-Palpur Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh is being developed as a second home for Asiatic Lion. Rs. 8.00 crores has been released so far for relocation of villagers outside the Kuno Palpur Sanctuary.

US opposition to India's exemption from Kyoto Protocol

2785. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI) has come down heavily on the comments made by the US that India should not be exempted from the Kyoto Protocol, as it was one of the top ten polluters of the world;

(b) whether the Kyoto Protocol, which was adopted in 1997, required developed countries to reduce their emission levels of six green house gases by at least five per cent, which has not been accepted by the USA; and

(c) if so, what has been Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b)Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government does not support any change in the existing balance of commitments between developed and developing countries and has opposed introduction of any new commitment.

Multi-colour rains in Kerala

2786. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the strange phenomena of pouring of multi-colour rains in Kerala recently;

(b) if so, whether any expert study or research has been conducted on the said phenomena; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a)Yes, Sir. Reports of occurrence of rains of different shades of red have been noticed in Kerala.

(b) and (c) The Centre for Earth Science Studies, Kerala have conducted studies and have opined that:

(i) The red colour in rain was probably due to meteoric dust.

(ii) The chemical analysis of the samples collected showed that the material is largely biological and has been identified as fungal spores.

Death of wild animals in zoos and conserved forests

†2787. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are showing grave negligence in the protection of wildlife;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite spending cores of rupees on safety and various other systems in conserved forests, the wild animals are being killed and they are dying due to diseased in the zoos; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the details of killings and diseases in zoos during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Deaths of wild animals and birds do occur due to a variety of reasons including natural causes, age, disease and poaching etc.

(c) State-wise information on deaths of important animals in the large and medium zoos that occurred during the last two years is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 193, Annexure No. 17]

Recommendations of Central Zoo Authority

2788. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI ABANI ROY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Zoo Authority's recommendations, made from time to time, are not followed by various zoological parks in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.